

REMARKS

Claims 29-57 and 59-60 are now pending in the application. Claims 29 and 60 are independent. Claim 58 has been canceled. Claims 59 and 60 have been added.

Objection to the Abstract

Withdrawal of the objection to the Abstract is requested. The abstract has been amended in a manner that is believed to overcome the stated bases for objection. A Replacement Abstract is provided as an attachment to this communication. Support for the Replacement Abstract may be found at least in allowable claim 29. No new matter is involved with any amendment to the Abstract.

Anticipation Rejection By Pelletier et al.

Withdrawal of the rejection of claim 58 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Pelletier et al (US Patent No. 5642005) is requested. Claim 58 has been canceled, thus rendering its rejection moot.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants note with appreciation that claims 29-57 have been allowed.

New Claims

New claims 59-60 have been drafted to avoid the applied art, and to further define that which Applicants regard as their invention. No new matter is involved with any new claim.

New method of use claim 59 depends from allowable device claim 29, and is submitted as being allowable at least on that basis. Support for claim 59 can be found at least in the original disclosure including the original claims, as well as in previously presented claim 58.

New independent method claim 60 finds support at least in the original disclosure including the original claims, as well as in previously presented claims 29 and 58.

The applied art, as acknowledged by the Examiner, does not teach or suggest an intervention unit with the functions as recited in claim 29, and as analogously recited in new method claim 60.

Consideration and allowance of newly-presented claims 59-60 are respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendment and remarks, Applicants believe that each of pending claims 29-57 and 59-60 in this application is in immediate condition for allowance. An early indication of the same would be appreciated.

In the event the Examiner believes an interview might serve to advance the prosecution of this application in any way, the undersigned attorney is available at the telephone number indicated below.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 22-0185, under Order No. 22106-00107-US1 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: December 20, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment: Replacement Abstract